



reduce waste by composting

DPW sells backyard compost bins for only \$25. Purchase a rodent-resistant compost bin during office or Drop-Off hours. Composting turns food and yard waste into a valuable soil amendment in a matter of months. Use finished compost for outdoor and indoor gardening. Free kitchen scrap bucket with every purchase, while supplies last.



motor oil:

Do not pour down any drain. State law requires retailers to accept and recycle it. DPW accepts oil from residential use only during business or Drop-Off Center hours. Drain it into a container with a tight lid to leave at the drop-off site.



paint:

Bring oil-based or water-based paint to hazardous waste collection day. Or, let water-based paint evaporate outdoors and place hardened cans, lids off, with your trash.

small computers & tvs:

One TV/monitor picked up per household per week with a diagonal screen length of 20 inches or less on collection day. Hard drives, key boards, and printers 40 lbs or less accepted. For larger items, see box at right about purchasing a sticker. Small electronics accepted during Drop-Off Center hours.

call a private hauler for:

- construction & demolition debris including: bathtubs, floor sandings, kitchen cabinets, pipes, sawdust, soot and sheetrock (contractors are responsible for disposal)

- property cleanouts

- automotive parts

- boilers & furnaces

- tree stumps, rocks, soil, dirt, & sand

the city will pick up:

- rodent-resistant barrels with tight-fitting lids, at the curb after 6pm the night before collection

- heavy-duty bags at the curb on collection day by 7am (no grocery, kitchen or other thin bags)

- one piece of furniture per week

- carpet (cut to 3 ft lengths, rolled & tied)

- lumber (1 bundle per week, 2 ft x 2 ft)

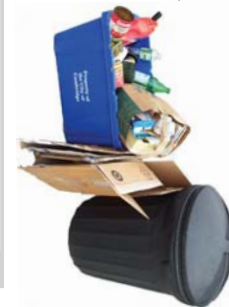
- mattress & boxspring (1 per week)

- thick tree limbs (3 bundles per week, 2 ft x 2 ft)

- toilet & sink (1 per week)

cambridge trash guidelines

Working together, we can reduce rodent problems, protect public health and ensure cleaner streets. You can reduce half of your trash by recycling, see inside! Recycling is easy and the law in Cambridge. To avoid injuries to rubbish workers, trash barrels/bags cannot exceed 50 gallons or 50 pounds. Remember that during holiday weeks, collection is delayed one day.



new drop-off hours

There are three collections held on Saturday in April, June and October from 10am to 4pm at 450 Concord Ave. 9002 dates: October 22 and November 24. Contact DPW at 617.349.4000 for more information. Not accepted.



To avoid contaminating waterbodies do not pour chemicals down drains. Report illegal dumping into catch basins or dirty-looking discharges from your trash can as it can cause harm to workers and the environment. Do not fall to DPW. Do not use hazardous waste in your trash. Do not use it as a fire hazard. Do not use it as a fire hazard. Do not use it as a fire hazard.

Alkaline batteries made after 1994 are safe to throw in the trash.

materials accepted include:	
• adhesives & glues	• stain thinners & strippers
• car tires (4 per car)	• photo chemicals & chemistry sets
• engine degreaser	• poisons, insecticides & weed killers
• fluorescent bulbs	• pool chemicals
• fuels (kerosene, gasoline, antifreeze)	• propane tanks (20 lbs or less)
• hobby & art supplies	• household cleaners & spot removers
• household cleaners	• solvents & varnishes
• non-alkaline & car batteries	• wood preservatives
• paints (oil & latex)	• fiberglass resins

to ensure safety:

Sort and pack paint, pesticides and cleaners separately but not in trash bags. Pack your car and go directly to the collection site. Never smoke while handling items; tighten caps and lids; never mix chemicals; and use original labeled containers.

the drop-off center accepts:

Only these hazardous products are accepted during open hours: fluorescent bulbs, non-alkaline batteries, thermometers and thermostats. Call for a free guide that describes safer, less toxic products.

help promote recycling



Inform your neighbors on how, what and why to recycle. Email rmail@cambridgema.gov and get involved in our “Recycling Neighbors” program!

exemptions



If you have a disability and need an exemption for the time that trash may be placed at the curb, call 617.349.4692 for the Commission Persons with Disabilities. Full and partial recycling exemptions are available. However, trash set out the night before collection, must be in a barrel with a tight-fitting lid.

Printed on 100% post-consumer recycled paper with soy inks.

available in: español português kreyòl 中文

THE WORKS
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Recycling and Trash Guidelines for Residents

updated Spring 2006

Information on curbside collection of recycling, yard waste and trash as well as household hazardous waste collections.



Business Hours: M 8:30-8pm, Tu-Th 8:30-5pm, F 8:30-Noon
Recycling Drop-off Center Hours: Tu & Th 4-7:30pm, Sat 9am-4pm

cambridge recycling guidelines

... recycling is easy and the law (Section 8.24.070).

why recycle?

Recycling saves money, creates jobs and reduces climate change.

For each ton we recycle, we save 17 trees, 2 barrels of oil, 7000 gallons of water and over 3000 pounds of air pollutants.

In 2005, we recycled 6280 tons of paper, over 4000 tons of bottles and cans, and 1850 tons of yard waste. Your efforts saved avoided disposal costs and earned over \$227,000 in revenue.

But last year, we still threw out over 2000 tons of paper and cardboard. **Remember, if it rips, recycle it.** Just keep it free from food and plastic wrap.

Thank you, and keep on recycling!

important tips:

- Set recycling and trash out by 7am on your collection day or after 6pm the day before. Take containers in by 6pm on collection day.
- No plastic bags. Do not place yard waste, papers or containers in plastic bags.
- During holiday weeks, collection is delayed 1 day.
- Close the loop! Buy products with post-consumer recycled content.

the recycling drop-off center:

Located in the rear of the DPW yard. When the Center is closed, the public may not enter the yard.

Open: Tues & Thurs 4-7:30pm
Saturdays 9-4pm

We accept: books, cans & bottles, cardboard, clothing, flags, mercury devices, fluorescent bulbs, motor oil, non-alkaline batteries, paper, packaging peanuts, plastic bags, small household appliances (no monitors or TVs), and small scrap metal (i.e. wire hangers).

Proof of residency required upon request.

paper & cardboard:

If it rips, recycle it! Just keep it free from food and plastic wrap.



what to recycle:

- **cardboard** (no pizza boxes)
- **paperboard** (cereal & tissue boxes, paper towel rolls)
- **magazines & newspapers** (glossy paper is ok)
- **phone books & junk mail** (no CDs or plastic wrap)
- **milk/juice cartons** (aseptic containers are ok)
- **soft cover books**
- **all office paper** (no blueprints)

no need to remove...

...staples, paper clips, spirals, plastic windows on envelopes, or even the plastic spout on milk/juice cartons!

how to prepare paper:

- no plastic bags **TIP!**
- place mixed paper together in a paper bag
- put shredded paper in a stapled & labeled paper bag



cardboard: it's not thaaat hard!

you can:

1. flatten, cut to 3ft x 3ft, secure under or between bins
2. flatten, fold & stuff in a paper bag or paper "toter"
3. OR, bring large, clean cardboard to Drop-off Center

Pizza boxes are not accepted *unless* you rip off the greasy parts and put it inside out with your mixed paper.

how to prepare containers:

- place rinsed containers loose in bin
- no plastic or paper bags **TIP!**
- remove lids & caps
- when possible, wipe out oily containers
- do not pour grease or oil down any drain

glass, metal & plastic containers:

Place rinsed containers loose in your bin, no plastic bags.



what to recycle:

- **aluminum** (pie plates, trays & foil)
- **empty aerosol cans**
- **glass containers** (any color)
- **metal cans** (tin, steel & aluminum)
- **stiff plastic containers, #1-7** (no plastic bags or styrofoam)
- **plastic plant pots** (#1-7, must be clean)

leaf & yard waste:

Place yard waste loose in barrels or in refuse bags, no plastic bags.



what to recycle:

- **leaves, grass & plants**
- **shrub prunings & twigs** (thinner than your thumb, shorter than your arm)
- **do not include:** tree stumps, rocks, soil, dirt, sand, food or trash

how to prepare yard waste:

- no plastic bags
- place loose in barrels with red City stickers facing the street, or
- place in paper yard waste bags (do not staple or tape)
- place thick limbs in 2 ft X 2 ft bundles (for trash pickup)



Call 617.349.4800 for free red yard waste stickers. Collection begins the first full week in April and continues through the second week in December.

call 617.349.4800:

- missed recycling
- missed yard waste
- to order a recycling bin
- for yard waste stickers
- for general questions

not accepted for curbside recycling:

- no pizza boxes
- no plastic bags*
- no foam packaging
- no packing peanuts*
- no broken glass
- no window glass
- no clothes hangers*
- no dishes or glasses
- no light bulbs
- no toys
- no clothing*
- no paper take-out containers
- no hard cover books*

** Marked items accepted at the Drop-off Center during open hours.*

mixed bins will not be collected:



remember:

- keep papers and containers separate
- rinse containers and place loose in bin
- place papers in a paper bag

No plastic bags, no trash and no Styrofoam.

www.cambridgema.gov/theworks